

Minutes of the Special and Regular Meeting of the Belmont City Council of June 10, 2003.

CLOSED SESSION 7:00 P.M.

Conference with property negotiator, City Manager Jere Kersnar, per Government Code Section 54956.8, regarding approximately 15,300 square feet of right-of-way adjacent to Parcel Number 040-360-480.

Councilmembers Present: Warden, Bauer, Metropulos, Wright

Staff Present: City Manager Kersnar, City Attorney Savaree, Assistant City Manager Rich, Public Works Director Davis. City Clerk Cook was excused from attending.

Adjournment – at this time being 7:10 P.M., the Special Meeting (Closed Session) of the Belmont City Council was adjourned.

Terri Cook

City Clerk

Meeting not tape recorded or videotaped.

CALL TO ORDER 8:06 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Warden, Bauer, Metropulos, Wright

Staff Present: City Manager Kersnar, City Attorney Savaree, Assistant City Manager Rich, Public Works Director Davis, Finance Director Fil, Community Development Director Ewing, City Clerk Cook.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Mayor Wright announced that there was direction give, but no action taken, at the Closed Sessions held on May 27, 2003 and earlier this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Wright reminded the public that each speaker was limited to two minutes, and that the timer would be utilized to help in this process.

George Burgess, Read Avenue, urged Council to make an analysis of the capital improvements plan, especially with regard to the City Hall retrofit project. He stated that there were risks of overruns that could affect the General Fund. He advised that Council consider the advice of the Finance Commission.

Joan Peceimer, Friends of Belmont Library, invited public to hear San Carlos author, Ann Packer, on June 18, and also announced that there would be a special speaker on October 1.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Wright congratulated Coralin Feierbach for winning the special election, and announced the swearing in scheduled for June 24. He also displayed the Visioning Plan newsletter which had just been mailed to households, and that September 6 was Vision Saturday.

Vice Mayor Metropulos announced the Belmont Park Boosters concerts starting on June 15.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Warrant List Dated: May 21, 2003, in the total amount of \$6,480, and May 30, 2003, in the total amount of \$530,915.

Acceptance of Written Communication 1) From the California Energy Commission, Notice of Committee Workshop on Energy Efficiency and Conservation.

Motion to approve Claims Management Report.

Motion to waive reading of Ordinances.

Approval of Resolution 9408 calling the November 4, 2003, General Municipal Election.

Approval of Resolution 9409 approving Cost Sharing for Supplemental Final Design Services with the City of Redwood City and Approving a fourth Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Mark Thomas & Company, Inc., for Supplemental Final Design Services for the Ralston Avenue/Route 101 Interchange Project, City Contract No. 402.

Approval of Resolution 9410 approving a Professional Services Agreement with Schaaf and Wheeler for Site Assessment and Conceptual Design of Twin Pines Park Creek Bank Stabilization, in an amount not to exceed \$31,165.

Approval of Resolution 9411 Authorizing the Filing of Grant Applications for the Operations and Programs of the Twin Pines Senior & Community Center.

Approval of Resolution 9412 Approving and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Agreements between State of California, Department of Transportation, and the City of Belmont regarding Federal and/or State Funding for the following Transportation Projects:

STPLHG-5268(006), Intersection of El Camino Real & Fifth Ave.

STPL-5268(007), Ralston Ave. - Cipriani Blvd. Alameda de las Pulgas

STPL-5268(008), Ralston Ave. - El Camino Real to Alameda de las Pulgas - Alameda da las Pulgas- Ralston Ave. to San Mateo City Limits

STPL-5268(009), Ralston Ave. - HWY 101 to Granada Street

CML-5268(010), Ralston Avenue - Traffic Signal Interconnect

RPL-5268(005), Belmont - various streets - resurfacing

Approval of Resolution 9413 Approving Contract Change Order No. 2 for an amount not to Exceed \$11,606.80 for Safe Routes to School Masonic Way Project, Golden Bay Construction, Inc., City Contract No. 433A.

Action: On a motion by Councilmember Bauer, seconded by Councilmember Metropulos, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

PUBLIC/HEARINGS

Reconvene Public Hearings to consider proposed Belmont Fire Protection District, Redevelopment Agency and City Budgets Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

Finance Director Fil reviewed budget information that had been outlined at the May 27th joint meeting with the Finance Commission. He stated that while the City was facing extraordinary financial circumstances, staff had presented a balanced budget with the required reserves. He clarified that budgetary corrections had already been made, and that no further action

was pending unless there were additional State takeaways. He clarified that there was a contingency plan in place should that occur. He reviewed the pending corrective action for the Development Services and Recreation Funds, and reviewed Performance Budgeting, budget policies, assumptions, revenue allocations, and expenditures. He also outlined the key capital projects and the five-year capital outlay plan.

Finance Director Fil stated that this meeting was set aside for the allocation of the Community Group Funding requests, and reviewed the policy, budget limitations, and procedures for allocation.

Mayor Wright opened the Public Hearing. The following representatives spoke briefly in support of their funding requests:

Mari Ellen Reynolds, Second Harvest Food Bank.

Laura Reed, the Lesley Foundation (Bonnie Brae Terrace)

Rebecca Amado-Sprigg, Shelter Network

Carol Kittermaster, Sustainable San Mateo County

Rod Carpenter, San Mateo County Historical Association

Steve Gross, Belmont Heights Civic Improvement Association

Laura Fanucchi, HIP Housing

Pam Clarke, Belmont Chamber of Commerce

Action: On a motion by Councilmember Warden, seconded by Councilmember Bauer, the Public Hearings for the Belmont Fire Protection District Budget, Belmont Redevelopment Agency Budget, and Belmont City Council Budget were unanimously closed by a show of hands.

Mayor Wright stated that there is never enough money to fund all the requests. He also stated that the current policy sets for allowance for seed money rather than for ongoing expenses. He clarified that he was going to allocate 75 percent of the amount requested for ongoing groups, but that his dilemma was balancing the five or six new requests with those ongoing requests

Councilmember Warden stated that other cities were making much deeper cuts in these allocations than Belmont.

Councilmember Bauer stated that the funding requests total 50 percent more than the budget.

Councilmember Metropulos stated that following a discussion with City Attorney Savaree, he would be abstaining from voting on the Central School request since he is a teacher at that school.

City Clerk Cook distributed the ballot sheets to the Councilmembers.

RECESS: 9:05 P.M.

RECONVENE: 9:20 P.M.

City Manager Kernsar stated that the following groups had received affirmative votes for funding, and all amounts were averages of Council's votes for allocation.

Chamber of Commerce \$27,425

Belmont-Namur Sister City \$ 8,125

C.A.L.L. Primrose Center \$1,906.25

Center for Domestic Violence \$4,225

Central School \$1,000

Friends for Youth \$250

HIP Housing \$15,500

Kollage Community School for Arts \$8,500

Legal Aid Society \$1,037.50

Leslie Foundation \$7,500

Mills-Peninsula Senior Focus-Wellness Center \$1,250

Ombudsman Program \$375

Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center (PCRC) \$9,875

Peninsula Policy Partnership \$4,625

San Mateo County Historical Association \$375

Jobs for Youth \$1,281.75

Second Harvest Food Bank \$1,718.75

Shelter Network \$8,500

Sustainable San Mateo County \$1,281.25

In response to Council questions regarding the allocations made, City Manager Kersnar stated that five groups received two votes for partial funding for a total of \$2,000, and those amounts were averaged over the five groups. Council discussion ensued, and it concurred that this was not enough money to worry about, and directed staff to allocate as outlined. City Manager Kersnar also stated that resolutions approving funding would be included in the formal Budget adoption at the meeting on June 24.

Mayor Wright suggested that the Community Group Funding policy and procedures be amended in future years, since some of the monies are used for fee-for-service, some for one-time projects. He stated that it might be better to directly contract for the fee-for-service agencies and groups. City Manager Kersnar stated that staff would review the policy and make a recommendation regarding future changes.

Ordinance Establishing Speed Limits along Ralston Avenue between Christian Drive and US 101.

Public Works Director Davis stated that the proposed ordinance would replace several uncodified resolutions adopted by previous city councils over the years. He clarified that this action was a followup action from the Ralston Avenue traffic and speed study reviewed recently, and he outlined the basis for the speeds to be set along various intervals. He also clarified that while the 85th percentile speed from El Camino Real to Highway 101 was 38 miles per hour, which should set the speed at 40 miles per hour, exceptions were allowed. He added that due to the new fire station and the curve of the road through that portion of Ralston, justification could be made to set the speed at 30 miles per hour, which is the recommendation.

In response to a question from Councilmember Warden regarding the sign with flashing lights located in the eastbound lane of Ralston near Lyall Way, Public Works Director Davis stated that black on yellow signs were cautionary, black on white are regulatory. He also stated that he questions

the value of the sign in question, and recommended that the Traffic Safety Committee review this matter.

In response to Councilmember Bauer, Public Works Director Davis stated that the speed limit in school zones is always 25 miles per hour when school was in session, and this applies to Ralston Middle School.

In response to Councilmember Metropulos, Public Works Director Davis stated that speed limit signs were usually posted at one-mile intervals or at new segments of the street.

Action: On a motion by Councilmember Bauer, seconded by Councilmember Metropulos, the Public Hearing was unanimously closed by a show of hands.

Action: On a motion by Councilmember Warden, seconded by Councilmember Bauer, an ordinance Establishing Speed Limits along Ralston Avenue between Christian Drive and US 101 was introduced by title by a unanimous showing of hands, and the second reading and adoption was set for June 24, 2003.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and direction regarding amendments to Belmont City Code Chapter 6, Bicycles and Chapter 14, Article 5, Skateboards, Skates, Bicycles and Similar Vehicles.

City Attorney Savaree stated that City Code Chapter 6, Bicycles, was last amended in 1973, and Chapter 14 was last amended in 1999. She stated that the recommended changes to Chapter 6 included licensing of bicycles and the modification of language throughout the chapter to match that of the California Vehicle Code. She further stated that the one change recommended for Chapter 14 was the prohibition of motorized skateboards and bicycles, including Segways from all areas where motor vehicles were prohibited.

In response to Council questions, City Attorney Savaree stated that signage should reference more than just bikes, and should also include the City Code reference.

Council concurred with Councilmember Warden suggestion to include language that addresses potential future changes in Segway vehicles so that the ordinance would not have to be amended should that occur.

City Attorney Savaree stated that a revised ordinance would be brought back to Council for formal adoption at a future meeting.

Adjournment – at this time being 9:50 P.M., the Meeting of the Belmont City Council was adjourned.

Terri Cook

City Clerk

Meeting tape-recorded and videotaped.

Tape No. 556